

HORROR IN THE CINEMA

Also: climatic
a program consisting of climactic sequences from some of Hollywood's most famous
horrorfilms (including FRANKENSTEIN, etc)

THE CAT PEOPLE

starring Simone Simon RKO *despite*
This example of Val Lewton's highly individualistic work, *despite* its initial
panning by some leading critics, has finally come to be recognized as an important
example of the horror by suggestion school sophisticated..

an amazing boxoffice success *despite* *was* of controversial critical reaction, this film
has finally come to be recognized generally as an important example of the sophisticated
horror film at its best evoking mystery and fright by suggestion rather than revelation.

first of V.L.'s films
This example of Val Lewton's highly individualistic work - an amazing
box office success *despite* controversial critical reaction - today has
become *a miles* come to be generally recognized as an important example of the sophis-
ticated horror film at its best /evoking mystery and fright by suggest-
ion rather than revelation/ An RKO Radip Picture starring Simone Simon

also: climatic excerpts from some of Hollywood's greatest horror films :

FRANKENSTEIN,

as selected by W. E. Evanson

of the sophisticated
AS AN ~~IMPORTANT~~ MILESTONE in the "horror-by-suggestion"
school of film making.

Cat People

RKO

ONLY PRINT

with

Simone Simon
Kent Smith

Tom Connors
Jane Randolph

Nicholas MUSURACA

To

~~Tom Connors~~
Jack Holt
~~Tom Connors~~

Boy Webb - Music

Mark Robson - edit

Prodt Val Lewton
w/rt Dewitt BODEN

D Jacques Tourneur

Get other credits -

© 1959 RKO

he meets her in zoo sketchy man(?)
from Serbia -

in her village, people had fallen on bad
ways -

cats don't like her - nor do other animals -
her accent is off at times

She claims there is something about her -
They get married -

She said good people +, and one escaped from her
village -
She asks for husband + return - from him

AN AIR OF MYSTERY -

THOUGH NOTHING DEFINITIVE IS
SHOWN

she playfully frightens bird - he dies

she throws him to leopard -

(compulsively)

is she just neurotic - important - etc?

he makes psycho -

Sol a problem - with her!

not also intelligent -

she tells psych: cartoon in her village
women change into panthers + if they
fall in love + kiss, they feel compelled
to kill them -

30

she visits zoo at night

other girl (she works with) confesses her

love to him -

he is good friends with her -

rather refreshing dialog - well writ-

percent, sensitive

he talks to his girlfriend re his feelings for
his wife - etc -

she refuses to see psych -

wife suspects infidelity -

✓ little actually happens in this f - + it
still keeps suspense + mystery

she follows girlfriend (Alice)
✓ good scene -

A sheep in zoo is killed - tracks of animal
lead away from it the turn into woman's
foot

NICE DIRECTOR TOUCHES

She dreams -
"psychoanalyt" dream -
She feels rejected by husband + Alice
conscious interests

Alice in swimming pool - feels like she's being
watched -
afraid - swordlike leopard -
SCARY
light reflex -

V SCARY

A slow buildup to more + more tension -

her robe is torn to ribbons -

Alice talks to psych -
"her story is product of her own fear"
psych carries sword in his case -

Story is unpredictable - this is V good

Psych lectures her -
as he ~~the~~ never would in real life
psych V pure - he "lectures" her
tells her th. she is close to maturity -

husb. tells her he loves Alice + wants divorce -
Somed is better in 2nd reel

She claws at life -
if she is committed - he is told he can't divorce
psych advises commitment - her -
psych ~~tares love in bit~~ surrept. leaves door
V house - To Art open -

V nie Sets: in / office - / drafts
tables have. sue off light

She + he trapped in office - with a legend -

✓ check - good sd effect -

✓ good - EERIE

her name takes (like across) " in name of
wood leave us in place
elevat ches -

not too light -

Oliver close - etc etc -

Psych meets her in her home - he is incoherent -

hurries her -

she is mad -

looks like a cat -

a struggle in darkness -

she ~~was~~ + he -

she kills psych + escapes -

Sword broke in her - she goes to zoo -

She opens leopard door who leaves —

leopard escapes —

leopard escapes —

runs over leopard —

PERCEPTIVE LITTLE + QUIET FILM

✦ TURNS INTO NIGHTMARE of
HORROR — as a psych give turns into
believe th she turned into leopard —

Yes

43

unbelievable story is
complet belief

43
30
—
73

it's left open: did she
ever turn into leopard
or should she

ie / good thing abt f is / 2 levels it can be
interpret as: superstition — or just a psychotic
give

we have a fantastic fear
the low element of obscurity even at
end —

Does she turn into a dog at end?

psych — weakest part of f!

horror never overstated —

Swimming pool v good!

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